Shelton State Courier

SHELTON STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

New Series Volume 12, Number 3 | Issue 160 | March 27, 2008 - April 21, 2008

Dual Champs!

(Again)

Both men and women's squads take it all in Muscle Shoals

Scrappy or overpowering, underdog or heavy favorite—you take your pick—and one of your Buccaneer teams will have fit the bill the week of March 3-9. But the results were the same: another championship for each, just like two years ago.

The men's squad came into the state (and national Region XII) tournament with no apparent reason to feel confident. They had even lost their last game of the season, to Marion Military Institute, a team that looked last year like it couldn't even suit up right let alone shoot.

But close observers of this Buc team knew they had "po" if not "mo" going into the post season. Potential that is.

After all, the men had recently (Feb. 21) taken the number one juco team in the nation—and their probably foe for the championship if they were to make it that far—Wallace State-Hanceville to the final buzzer before losing 85-82.

So after a string of upset wins up in Muscle Shoals including an 86-67 thrashing of Lawson State—a team they had

See **Both** *Page 2*

March 11 wasn't just a great day—it was doubly 'Fair'

By Stephanie James

For several years, Shelton had scheduled its popular Wellness and Job fairs on the same day.

But then they got too big and too successful, for hundreds visited the Wellness Center and scores of local companies displayed their wares for the Job fair.

In 2008, come what may, the two fairs attempted a joint operation. Even with the usual parking challenges and shoulder-to-shoulder jostling, visitors seemed to enjoy the wide

See **Fairs** *Page 6*

Scenes from the fairs: Shelton student Lindsey Handy (L) touts a peanut butter spread from Manna grocery during the 2008 Health Fair. Brandon Roberts (R) rappels in the atrium during the 2008 Job Fair.

Inside The *Courier*

There could be blood...Matthew C. checks out the imputations of his name..... Pg. 3

Hillcrest sends some kids over here to look into the culinary program & how to wear the big hats.....Pg. 7

The Police and Fire Departments outdo each other with cool stuff.....Pg. 5

Pg. 4

Play the QEP Game for *Prizes & Fun!*

Both

from Page 1

already lost twice to this year—here were the big boys again: Wallace-Hanceville, with their undefeated record, their no. 1 national status, their transfer guy from Indiana, and their players already recruited for the next level.

All of that going for you could make you nervous and that appeared the diagnosis for the Lions, who seemed tentative and hesitant, especially when their early shots didn't fall.

The end result was a championship to savor for a team what didn't figure to earn on this year.

Going into the game at 24-10, the Buccaneers left with a trophy and a ticket to the national tourney in Hutchinson, Kan.

"We just came together at the right time this year," was all Coach Barry Mohun could say, shaking is head—as if even he could not believe what happened.

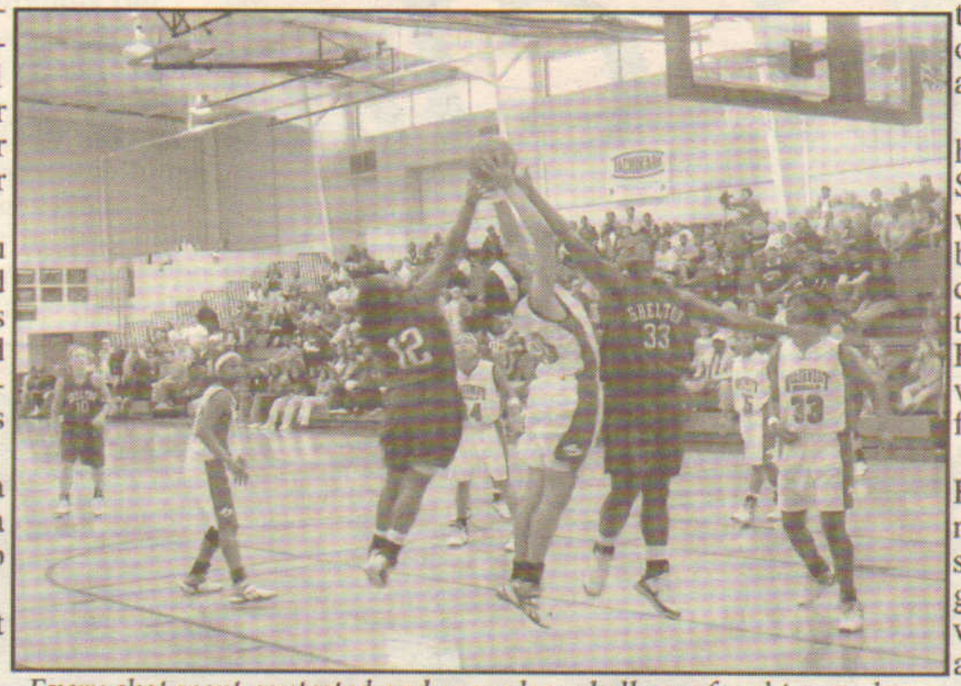
What happened in Kansas was a bit easier to understand, if not enjoy.

The sky-high Buccaneers would have to continue to play beyond, arguably, their own ability-level to continue to advance. With one unlikely trophy on the shelf, could they possibly keep it up?

Afraid not.

The Bucs played well against the Northeastern Oklahoma State Norsemen on March 18 for much of the game but seemed to run out of steam in the closing minutes and lost 78-65.

The team seemed to take back up their winning ways in the consolation bracket against the team ranked first in the nation coming into the tournament, Chipola College.



Every shot went contested and every loose ball was fought over during the state championship game won by the Shelton State Lady Bucs over Northwest-Shoals.

As a matter of fact, LaJay Sears of Shelton actually scored the winning basket against them; unfortunately it came a split second after the horn had sounded.

With thousands of basketball fans screaming and television cameras rolling, it was a fittingly exciting ending to an up-and-down season. The Bucs could go back to t-town, look at their trophy and feel pretty satisfied.

"They really make you feel special out here," Mohun said of the national tournament hosts after the game.

And this never-say-die team proved its specialness in deeds.

The Lady Bucs: Now That's Another Matter

The Lady Buccaneers faced the opposite demons of their male counterparts.

After a slow start to their season which saw the defending state champions at 6-4, the Lady Bucs reeled off 22 wins in a row, allowing the three sophomores to not experience sour taste of a conference loss in their whole careers.

There was a hop in the step of the Shelton players as they were introduced for the championship game.

They didn't seem at all overconfident in their championship game, but the portends, augurs and foreshadowing of defeat crowded all around them.

Consider: they would have to beat Northwest Shoals for the third time to win; they would have to beat them on their home court; and they would have to do it after seeing the men Buccaneers upset a team whose shoes they now filled.

The men of Wallace of Hanceville seemed very nervous at the prospect of seeing a triumphant season go down the drain at the very end. Did the same fate await the Lad Bucs?

Almost.

NW Shoals did their worst to unnerve Shelton on that Sunday afternoon, March 10 with a desperate, cloying defense. The Lady Bucs seemed to keep their cool, but for much of the game the shots would not fall.

So, of course, the race came down to a stretch for the tape and with a couple of clutch shots they won their trophy with a 56-50 nailbiting victory.

Head Coach Madonna Thompson called this third championship in a row her "sweetest." That shouldn't be surprising when the tea leaves could not have looked just right sitting in the bottom of the cup at the end of a perfect conference season.

So just how good would this team prove in the nationals? Would they continue their hard-nosed play and winning ways. Or would they succumb to the unrelenting pressure of a winning streak and revert to their pre-conference form?

The answer to that question in Salina, Kan., would have to be considered mixed.

First the triumphant news: The Lady Bucs won their last game of the season, defeating Western Nebraska soundly, 66-45. When you win your last game it has to be a total victory, right?

Now the not-so-good news: the last-game victory came in the consolation bracket in the national tournament, so the Bucs took a neat seventh and not it all.

The team did suffer a bit of a letdown in their first game on the plains. The 12th-seeded Bucs lost to fifth-seed Barton County of

See **Both** *Page 8*

The *Shelton State Courier* is brought to its readers by the academic and extracurricular programs of Shelton State Community College.

Shelton State Courier

Editor
Matt Celozzi
Staff Writer
Keith Huffman
Staff Writers
Members of MCM-102 Class

Web Developer
Elizabeth Wiley

Publisher
Dr. Jim Kenny

The *Shelton State Courier* is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among its functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working with the students in the production of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The *Courier* is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.

Revenge of the Matthews...

After hearing for two years about the infamous Matthew in Allen Mallory's stand-up act, another Matthew decides for himself just how funny this funny guy is.

By Matt Celozzi
***Courier* Editor**

I admit it: I'm not easily impressed.

Sure, Sir Edmund Hillary was the first man to ascend Mt. Everest, but the darn thing is only 29,029 ft. high. And I'm pretty sure that he brought Sherpas. In fact, I don't think that even counts.

So for the last two years, as numerous people around campus would tell me time and again how funny Allen Mallory is as an instructor, and how great of a performance he gives every year for Comedy Night, I would think to myself, "Yeah, but is he *funny*? The guy's a teacher."

I've never been fortunate enough to have Dr. Mallory as an instructor, but I'm sure he has his moments in class. He might even have a quip or two that are half as good as a certain Darrell who shall remain nameless. "Tell your mom you met Mr. Wright."

But could he get on stage under the hot lights and conjure laughs from hundreds of people including me, a would-be connoisseur of stand-up comedy?

My ambivalence was quelled the first time he did the "Matthew" face.

For those of you unfamiliar with Mallory and his act, he's a legendary Child Development instructor here at Shelton, and a bona-fide stand-up comic who's done hundreds of gigs and speaking engagements all over the nation. He's also an "hilarious bastard." That's a quote. From me.

Dr. Allen Mallory strikes a five-second pose to allow a Courier *photographer to snap this shot during his stand-up comedy act on Thursday, March 19 in the Bean-Brown Theater.*

Mallory's routine revolves around his career in childcare. Anyone who has ever worked with children knows how hilarious they can be. I mean, they talk funny, eat glue and relieve themselves of said glue at will. It doesn't take an alchemist to turn material like that into comedic gold.

Mallory knows this, and he exploited it to perfection on Thursday night, March 19 in the Bean-Brown Theater. Listening to skillfully woven stories on topics ranging from how he got into the childcare field, to his first day working at a day care center, to an awkwardly amusing chestnut about a misunderstanding over the word "kitties," the audience never even approached boredom.

And how could they? Mallory is an outstanding story-teller and excels in a genre of stand-up that few have mastered. Bill Cosby immediately came to mind. (Listen up, kids. I read somewhere on the Internet that Bill Cosby was a television icon and stand-up way back in the 20th Century. If you don't remember television then I'm afraid you're on your own.)

Hundreds of fans came to Mallory's performance, and nearly every one tried to get to him afterwards to offer their congratulations for another show well done.

Not only do the two perform similar subject matter, but Mallory shares with Cosby an uncanny ability to keep an audience laughing and interested throughout a narrative that might take 15 minutes to achieve fruition. He does so with a liberal peppering of amusing dialogs, usually between him and a young pupil, complete with funny voices and complementary machinations. He even mixes in a few props for good measure.

Another comic of whom I was quickly reminded was George Carlin. First of all, Allen Mallory looks like George Carlin. They're not twins. But the first time I saw one of Mallory's posters hanging in a hallway, with him locked in his famous "Matthew" pose complete with mock devil horns, I immediately noticed the resemblance.

I also noticed a striking resemblance in the skill they demonstrate as public-speakers. Carlin is a master wordsmith and understands the power of a well-crafted monologue. His ability to flawlessly rattle off at will a series of idioms or phrases has always impressed me.

Mallory shares this ability. It shows that he is well-rehearsed and passionate about his material, just like his legendary counterpart.

In illustrating the similarities shared by Mallory and those aforementioned icons, I'm hopefully conveying the idea that this performer is a consummate professional, not only on stage, but in every aspect of his career. A beloved instructor, dedicated childcare worker and successful comedian, Mallory seems to immerse himself in his work.

And once all the jokes were over, and every rib was thoroughly tickled, his dedication to what he does is what left me with an immense respect for Mallory. It comes through in every quote, quip and quirky comment. It makes his jokes that much funnier because I know they're not just jokes. They're his life.

But I do have one bone to pick with Dr. M: This notion that all children named "Matthew" are basically Satan incarnate. It's simply not true. Sure, when I was a kid I fit the description perfectly. But somewhere on this planet, there has to be at least one "Matthew" that's not so incorrigible. Just keep looking, Doc.

Will rising gas prices lead to popularity of on-line classes?

By Keith Huffman

As each year retail gas prices continually rise and former record-breaking costs become regarded as wishful thinking, transportation expenses have presumably become a major issue for those with below as well as average incomes, prompting many to carpool and pinch their every penny.

In the cases of some Shelton State students, the prospect of taking classes on-line may someday be another ideal alternative for saving money, to which Shelton's Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), with the aid of faculty members and students, is presently seeking to improve such courses' projected 50-percent completion rate.

Questioning the impact that traveling expenses would have in influencing enrollment in online courses, 75 percent of 80 students who participated in a March 12-13 survey agreed gas prices would play a major factor in their decision, and 71 percent claimed they would be interested in online courses under any circumstance.

When asked at what price gas would have to reach to make students seriously consider taking online courses, the average amount was $4, with $3 likely being the lowest and $10 the highest.

If there is indeed truth to these responses, then online courses could be in much more demand sooner than some may have expected. According to a Feb. 27 article on the *International Herald Tribune*'s official website, "some experts [are] fearing" the price of gas "could hit $4 a gallon by spring." With the price of oil, at that time, at "$100.88 a barrel," the article also states that "Tom Kloza, publisher and chief oil analyst at the Oil Price Information Service.... said he expects gasoline to peak around $3.50 to $3.75 nationwide. [And] Geoff Sundstrom, AAA's spokesman, echoed that view and added that $4-a-gallon gasoline is possible this summer."

Although the traditional in-class setting appears to be the most-preferred, online courses can be quite resourceful for those with demanding work schedules as well as someone who prefers to learn strictly one-on-one with their instructor.

Take Shelton State Culinary Arts major Julie Kenny, who has taken an English and a history course on-line. Regarding her experience with online classes, she recommended them for "those who are real serious with school," adding students must have "the self-discipline" to complete their work "on a daily basis than putting things off."

"To my understanding, a lot of people get behind in their work, and that's why they dropped," Kenny said.

71% of Shelton students said they are interested in possibly taking on-line classes

75% of Shelton students say gas prices would be a a factor in their decision to take on-line classes

$4 was the average threshold price per gallon gas to which would have to climb for Shelton students to get more serious about on-line classes.

QEP Game #1

Vote for the Logo of Your Choice

#1

Improving Student Success in Online Classes
Quality Enhancement Plan

#2

#3

For the first game of the QEP Series, we present you with a choice of QEP logos the college is deciding among for its PR campaign. Help them decide which of the three looks the best—and remember, you will be seeing it a lot in the coming year.

Most QEP Games will be open to all supporters of Shelton State and readers of the *Shelton State Courier*.

Game No. 1, however, is open only to Shelton State students, because the college is attempting to engage as many students as possible in the basic design of the program.

All of the selectees who chose the most popular logo will have their names placed in a hat and a drawing will be made to select the winner of an iPod Shuffle.

Make your selection from QEP logo number 1, 2, or 3, clip the coupon from the paper and give it to a *Courier* staff member, bring it by the Courier office in Rm. 2319, send it by campus mail, or via snail-mail to Shelton State Courier/ QEP Game/ 9500 Old Greensboro Rd./ Tuscaloosa, AL 35405.

Logo No. 1 ☐ **Logo No. 2** ☐ **Logo No. 3** ☐

Name: _____
must be a current Shelton State student

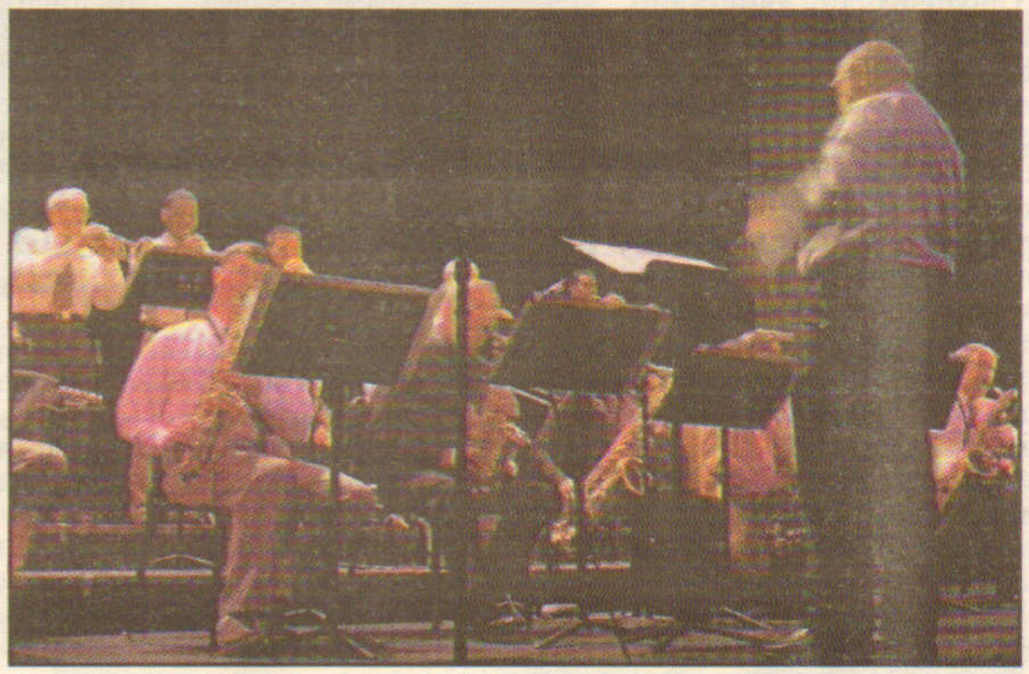
Way to contact you: _____

Shel-Shots

Tuscaloosa Police Officer Robert Fourt shows off his charge: a Dodge Charger designed by a Bryant Hight School student. Fourt uses the car in a police PR campaign, but also chases bad guys with it from time to time.

The Tuscaloosa Police Department's helicopter was a popular feature of the Job Fair once again.

Don't worry, there was no fire at the college. It was just the Tuscaloosa Fire Department showing off at the Job fair some of the equipment they use to save lives.



Dr. Alan Blackshear leads the Shelton State Jazz Ensemble during its spring concert in the Bean-Brown Theater.

Broadway Memories and Melodies *was a smash hit during its four performances before Spring Break. Nearly all the seats were filled during the showcase of college acting and singing talent.*

A DCH display got its fair share of visitors during Shelton's Health Fair in the Wellness Center. Dr. Milady Murphy has staged this popular event for 18 straight years.

News From Phi Theta Kappa

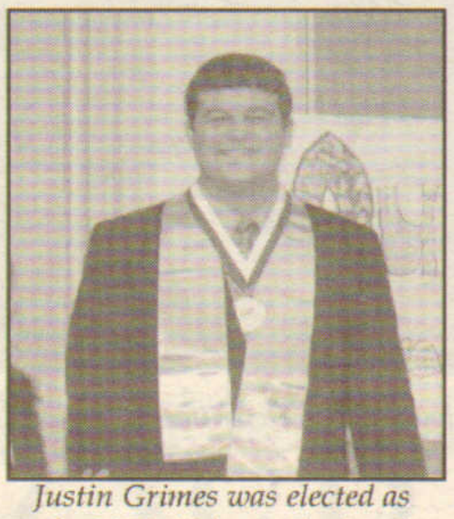
2008 Alabama Regional Convention

Phi Theta Kappa held its Alabama Regional Convention March 7-8, 2008, at Jefferson State Community College. Friday night the convention was kicked off with a silent auction benefiting the America Cancer Society. Representatives from Athens State University and Birmingham Southern College gave presentations promoting their campuses. The night ended with an introduction of and a speech from the 2008 regional officer candidates, including Shelton State's very own Justin Grimes who ran for regional president.

Saturday began with presentations from UAB, University of Montevallo, and Keep America Beautiful. Voting for regional officers also took place that morning.

Justin Grimes of Shelton State was elected as the 2008 Alabama Regional President of Phi Theta Kappa.

Saturday afternoon the individual chapters split up to either tour the Lovelady Center of Birmingham or Birmingham Southern College's Environmental Center. Shelton's Alpha Epsilon Iota Chapter was one of the many who visited BSC's Environmental Center, where we were shown how to be more eco-friendly at home, school, and work.



Justin Grimes was elected as the 2008 Alabama Regional President of Phi Theta Kappa at its Regional convention held at Jefferson State Comm. College.

The convention ended Saturday night with a very elegant Award's Gala. The University of North Alabama gave a presentation which was followed by the guest speaker, Congressman Artur Davis.

The night ended with the awards presentation and the installation of our new regional officers. Shelton State's Phi Theta Kappa chapter received the 5-Star award for its involvement in the different Hallmarks.

Relay for Life Fundraiser Bake Sale

Phi Theta Kappa held a bake sale for Relay for Life in the atrium of Shelton State March 12. Faculty, staff, and Phi Theta Kappa members baked and donated the goods for the sale. There were cakes, pies, cookies, cupcakes, and brownies for sale and everything was sold by 1 that afternoon. At the bake sale $418 was made to go toward Shelton State's $3,000 goal for Relay for Life. Phi Theta Kappa would like to thank everyone who helped make this a success.

Counselor Kevin Windham looks on as PTK President Patricia Latham (L) and Vice President of Communication Missie DeLoach wait on another satisfied customer during the organization's recent bake sale. $418 was raised for the American Cancer Society.

Any Phi Theta Kappa students planning to graduate in May 2008 should place their orders for their PTK Regalia by April 8, 2008. You can e-mail Claire Brock at cbrock@sheltonstate.edu , call 391-3918, or go by office 2408. There are catalogues available for you to peruse and order forms outside the door.

Fairs

from Page 1

range of offerings.

According to Mike Fields of the job placement department, over 60 employers took advantage of the opportunity to display their stuff and talk to potential workers.

"They [employers] tell us every year that they make contact with several future employees during the fair. They really seem to enjoy coming out to Shelton every year."

According to a 2007 study by *Discovery Health*, only 22-percent of American adults engage in regular, sustained physical activity for at least 30 minutes, five times a week Shelton students, being typical American adults, are surely no different.

With this in mind, Shelton State held its 18th annual Health Fair on Tuesday, March 11. The event was conducted by Wellness Center Director Dr. Milady Murphy.

"The Health Fair is intended not only to give students ideas about how to get and stay fit, but also to showcase the many classes and programs available through the Wellness Center," said Murphy, who has been responsible for the annual fair since its inception. "At Shelton, you can take exercise classes in the Wellness Center for college credit."

The Health Fair also was well-attended by community representatives. "We had over 50 organizations from fields such as health, medicine, local fitness, recreation, and sports," said Murphy. "What that says about our college is that they support Shelton State."

DCH hospital, local chiropractors, several gyms and UA's Bryant Museum were just a few examples of booths that attendees could visit.

There were also several live demonstrations for students to enjoy. 2004 Miss Alabama and Director of Community Education Shannon Gryska started things off with a well-received rendition of the "Star-Spangled Banner." Team Lee demonstrated some karate and other forms of self-defense. And tai-chi was performed by Dolores Royal.

"But Shelton State came through with the rest of the program," said Murphy.

Beth Patrick conducted a dance line representing the athletic department. Then Princess Norwood demonstrated kick-boxing, and coach Kareem McNeal demonstrated weight training. Lea Green's exercise class led the stretching.

"Shelton State students of all ages made us proud," said Murphy.

College administrators publish in NISOD *Abstracts*

Shelton State Community College's Dr. Fran Turner, Adult Education Program Director; Phillip Johnson, Adult Education Site Coordinator; and Tommy Taylor, Dean of Students, were published in the Feb. 22 *Innovation Abstracts* by the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD).

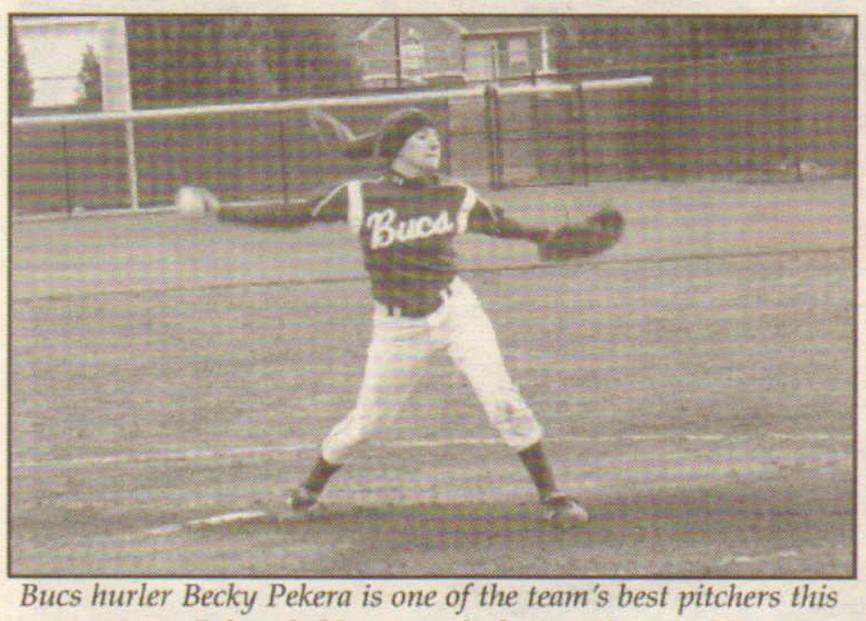
The article explores Shelton State's Adult Education Program class structure redesign to address the needs of young adult learners.

It was noted by several Adult Education instructors that many of the younger adult learners required more structure and discipline than the more mature learner and that individual learning styles needed to be considered.

To meet the needs and unique learning styles of the sixteen to eighteen-year-olds, three innovative classes were developed: Young Adults, Fast Track, and A-PLUS (Accelerated Literacy).

Follow-up data from the accountability management system tracked 2006-2007 results and revealed a positive correlation between the respective class and the success of the young adult as well as an increase in program completion rates for this student population.

Boom! Softball team explodes onto national scene



Bucs hurler Becky Pekera is one of the team's best pitchers this season. Pekera holds a record of 7-1 with a sparkling 0.62 ERA as of March 25.

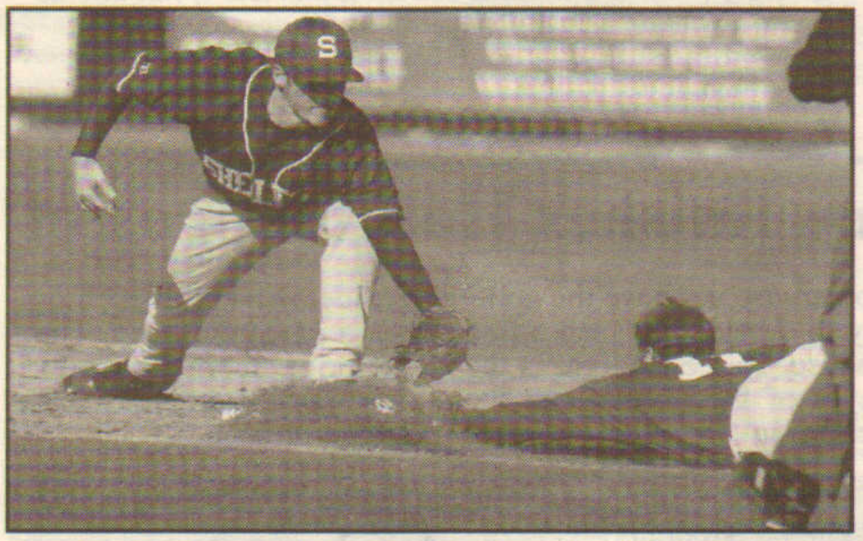
After years of different coaches and indifferent seasons, the Shelton State Lady Buccaneer softball team has suddenly found its inner excellence.

With a 21-5 start and four of six victories in the Wallace-Hanceville Invitational Tournament, the Bucs found themselves ranked no. 15 in the National Junior College Athletic Association Top 25 in mid March.

Following the team's 8-0 and 12-1 doubleheader victories over conference foe Southern Union, the Bucs were 23-5 overall and 4-0 in conference play.

The team is now coached by Buddy Boyle.

Baseball team staying above .500 in rebuilding year



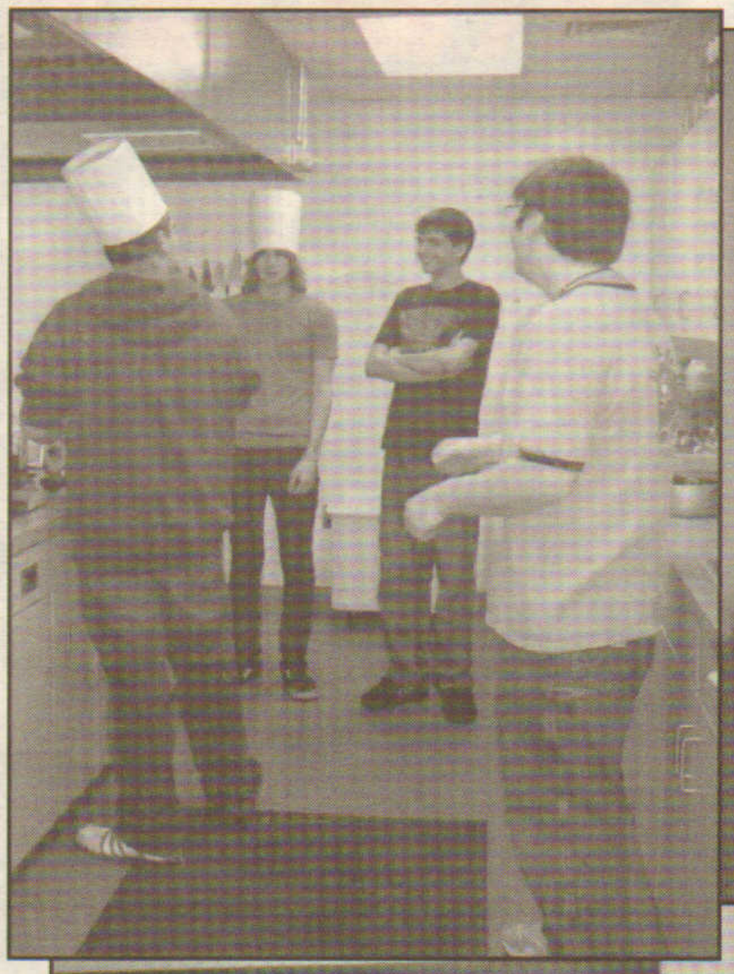
Let the other guys slide! *The Buccaneer baseball team is looking to keep its fine play up for another season after winning the state championship last year.*

After winning the state championship last year for the first time under veteran coach Bobby Sprowl, it would seem likely that '08 would be a rebuilding year for the Buccaneers.

The team has struggled a bit during its usual Florida early-season swing, but it seems to be finding itself.

One good sign was a 14-4 thrashing of Wallace of Selma on March 18. That offensive outburst put the Buc-9 at 15-11 on the season.

Hillcrest students get taste of culinary program



Several students from Hillcrest High School visited Shelton State from March 3-6 to participate in the Career Observation Program. Learning more about the culinary classes at the college were (Top L): Raymond Lanphere, Brett Mitchell, Brian Drysdale, Cody Gantz.

Brett Mitchell (Top R) gives the thumbs up to everything he's learned, including how to wear the big chef's hat.

Robert Nelson, Cody Gantz and Josh Reynolds (Bottom) are literally "cookin' with Crisco" as the mix up a batch of batter in the college's culinary facilities.

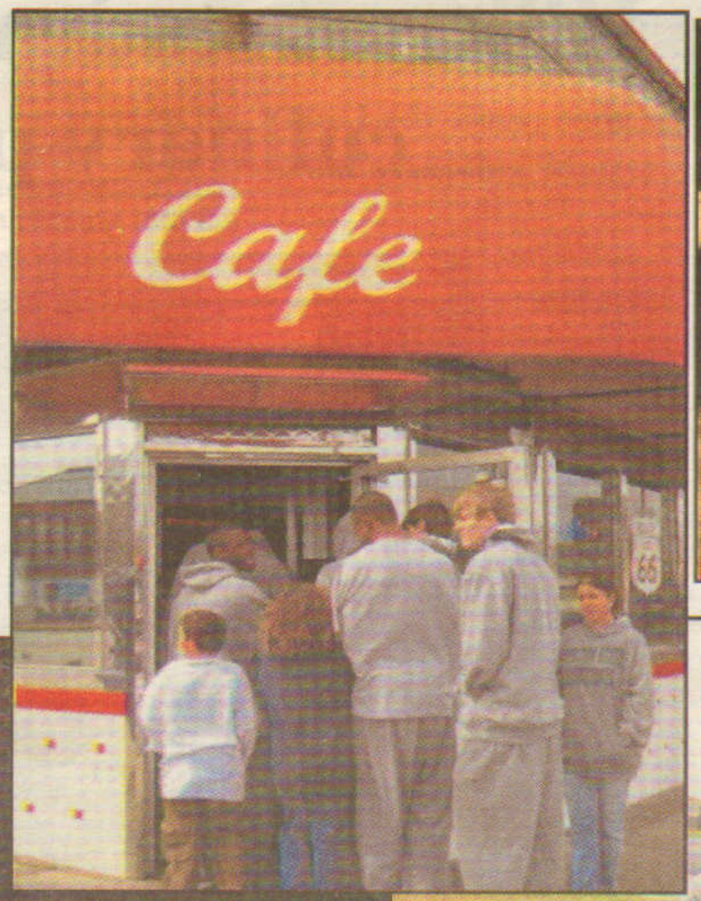
Both

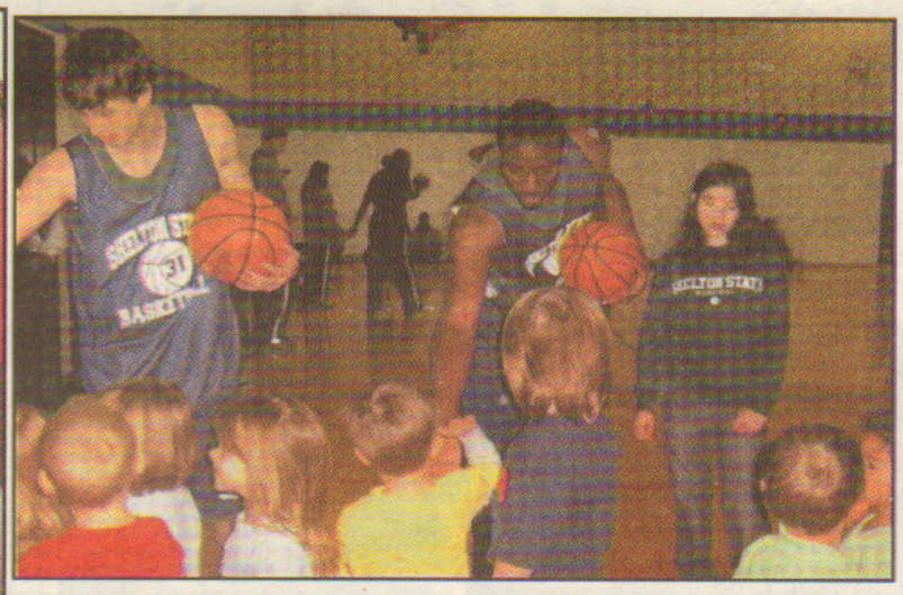
from Page 2

Kansas, 64-61 with sharpshooter Ayla Guzado's last-second shot rimming out.

However, the Lady Bucs re-adopted their marauding ways thereafter, vanquishing East Central (Miss.) Community College 89-75 before using their very own head-lopper—Marquisha Loper—to finish off the season with a 19-point effort.

The seventh place finish in Div. I was the highest ever by Shelton State. The team went 31-4 last year and 31-5 this year.





A Whirlwind tour of Hutchinson, Kan.

Although their W-L record at the national tournament didn't reflect it, the Buccaneers had a great time in Kansas, including: a visit to a famous Rt. 66 restaurant, Coach Mohun speaking to a local elementary school, an excursion deep underground into a working salt mine and lots of fun interaction between players and youngsters.

Hardwired for philanthropy, Quimby's class finishes Habitat project

William Quimby has led Shelton State students working with Habitat for Humanity of Tuscaloosa since its beginning in 1999.

As a valuable learning tool for the Electrical Technology program, he explains the two great benefits it offers.

"Students are able to receive 'real-life' experience in the electrical requirements of building a home. They can put into practice mandatory standards set by fire and electrical codes. Also, the ability to serve others in a community-aided effort teaches the rewards of giving to others."

Quimby said neighborhoods which have a Habitat home built within their community usually see improvements that go beyond the newly erected houses. Residents begin to take pride in their own homes and the areas experience positive visual change. A family that is awarded a Habitat home is required to give approximately 400 hours of community service in return.

Quimby described what the award ceremony was like when the family was given the key to a completed home. "Many people would otherwise not have the ability to ever obtain such a fine house. To see the light in the eyes of the parents and the children is like seeing Christmas for them."

Quimby said, "The students really look forward to supplying Habitat for Humanity homes with electrical wiring needs. Finishing gives a great sense of satisfaction on an actual home. And in many cases, they are able to provide better craftsmanship over a paid contractor. They take pride in what they do." This was the college's 14th Habitat project.

Electrical Tech. instructor William Quimby (C) collaborates on the Habitat house.